

Tab 4

1 IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
2 OF VENANGO COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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4 VALERIE W. WAKEFIELD,)
5 Plaintiff,)
6 vs.) CIVIL DIVISION
7 JOY MINING MACHINERY COMPANY,) No. 290-2005
8 Defendant.)

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10 DEPOSITION OF HAROLD I. WAKEFIELD
11 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

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13 Deposition of HAROLD I. WAKEFIELD, called as a
14 witness by the Defendant, taken pursuant to Notice of
15 Deposition and the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil
16 Procedure, by and before Carla L. Lennartz, a Court
17 Reporter and a Notary Public in and for the
18 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at the Franklin Club,
19 1340 Liberty Street, Franklin, Pennsylvania,
20 commencing at 9:00 a.m. on the day and date above set
21 forth.

22 - - -
23

1 period just so that we can all -- especially since
2 four of us at the table are distant from our homes
3 especially today so that we can get home at a decent
4 hour. If at any time, however, you need to take a
5 comfort break, please just say so.

6 A. Very good.

7 Q. If at any time you need to confer with counsel,
8 please just say so. Under those circumstances,
9 however, I just ask that you answer whatever question
10 is currently pending before you take that break; okay?

11 A. Okay.

12 Q. I'm sorry to go back.

13 A. I understand.

14 Q. Okay. Thank you. Mr. Wakefield, are you
15 currently married to Valerie Wakefield?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Were you ever married before you were married
18 to Valerie?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. How many times?

21 A. Twice.

22 Q. Would you start with your first marriage,
23 please, and tell me your first wife's name?

1 A. The last I knew was somewhere in the Venus
2 area.

3 Q. Venus. What county is that?

4 A. I believe Clarion.

5 Q. You said last you knew. When did you last know
6 of her whereabouts?

7 A. 20 years ago.

8 Q. Subsequent to your divorce from Desiree, did
9 you remarry?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Who did you marry?

12 A. Lorraine Madden.

13 Q. Two D's?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. What was the date of that marriage?

16 A. 1980.

17 Q. In what county?

18 A. Venango.

19 Q. And what was the year of your divorce?

20 A. 1986.

21 Q. And what county?

22 A. Venango.

23 Q. Were there any children of that marriage?

1 A. Yes, one.

2 Q. Is that your son Justin?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What were the reasons for that divorce, Mr.
5 Wakefield?

6 A. Once again, infidelity.

7 Q. Your wife's infidelity?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. How long into the marriage did you learn of
10 your wife's infidelity?

11 A. Five years.

12 Q. How did you learn of it?

13 A. A friend.

14 Q. I'm sorry?

15 A. A friend.

16 Q. A friend told you?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. A friend of yours or a friend of your wife's?

19 A. A friend of mine told me.

20 Q. Did you know the individual with whom your wife
21 Lorraine was having a relationship?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. How long did that relationship go on before you

1 Q. Okay. And you stayed at Quaker State until
2 1989?

3 A. '89, yes.

4 Q. And then what happened?

5 A. In 1989, that company was taken over by another
6 company; and at that point in time, Joy was hiring
7 welders. I decided to choose to come back to Joy
8 welding.

9 Q. And when was that, 1989?

10 A. Yes. October 30th, 1989 I returned to Joy.

11 Q. Been with Joy continuously since that time?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. In what positions?

14 A. Welder.

15 Q. So in 1989 you returned to Joy as a welder;
16 you've been a welder at Joy continuously until today?

17 A. Present, yeah. Yes.

18 Q. Did you ever hold any supervisory positions at
19 Joy?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Have you ever been disciplined while at Joy?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. When?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did you encourage her to apply for the job?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Was there any competition or was she the only
5 applicant?

6 A. That I can't answer.

7 Q. Did Joy advertise for the job?

8 A. Not that I'm aware of.

9 Q. To whom did Valerie have to apply to get the
10 job?

11 A. I'm trying to think of the agency in Oil City.
12 Job Service. It used to be called the unemployment
13 office, but they over the years have since changed.
14 I'm pretty sure it's called Job Service in Oil City,
15 which Joy in Franklin uses them for job placement.

16 Q. Do you recall the first time Valerie mentioned
17 Larry Meade in any context?

18 A. First time that I can remember was the day he
19 came to our house after my son's death.

20 Q. You never heard his name mentioned by Val
21 before that day?

22 A. Not that I can recollect.

23 Q. Okay. When did you first become aware that Mr.

1 and Mrs. Meade lost their son -- one of their sons in
2 a car accident?

3 A. I believe that same day.

4 Q. How did you become aware of that?

5 A. When he stopped at our house that morning. For
6 some reason I'm thinking Valerie when he came to the
7 door answered the door; and Valerie knew who he was.
8 I had no idea who he was. I believe she had said, it
9 may have even been before she left him in, that this
10 Larry Meade, he lost a son in an accident.

11 Q. So Valerie told you that Larry had lost his
12 son?

13 A. I'm thinking that. If not at that moment, as
14 soon as he come in the house he had said who he was.

15 Q. So you didn't know who Larry Meade was --

16 A. No.

17 Q. -- at Joy?

18 A. No.

19 Q. You never saw him?

20 A. No.

21 Q. You never heard his name?

22 A. No.

23 Q. In 2000, 2001, who were your closest friends at

1 A. No.

2 Q. Weekly?

3 A. That would probably be at most in the
4 beginning, yeah.

5 Q. Would you see him every day?

6 A. I could if I wanted to. Generally I worked in
7 welding like here, the main aisle way, he would walk
8 up through in the morning or down through when he was
9 punching out; but as far as discussions, maybe once a
10 week.

11 Q. Were your co-workers from Joy in general
12 helpful in the days immediately following the loss of
13 your son? In other words, did folks from Joy come to
14 pay their respects? Did they send flowers, cards,
15 that kind of thing?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. A lot of them?

18 A. Yes. Yes.

19 Q. Did folks stop at the house to lend their
20 support?

21 A. Yes, there was a handful I would say.

22 Q. Five?

23 A. Half a dozen, somewhere in there, yes.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did you go to see Susan Stewart together?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Did you talk to anyone from Joy before you went
5 to see Susan Stewart?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Who did you speak to?

8 A. Johan Maritz.

9 Q. How did it come about that you spoke with Johan
10 that day?

11 A. I believe Johan called to find out if there was
12 anything he could do or what was going on.

13 Q. He called the house?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Was he expressing concern for Valerie?

16 A. I'm trying to remember the content of that
17 conversation. I can remember him asking me what was
18 going on or what had went on, something to that
19 effect; and I believe I told him it had to do with
20 Larry Meade again and that Valerie hadn't told me
21 everything until now.

22 Now I remember. I said, I don't know whether
23 she had him come in the bathroom or what happened,

1 figure out which conversation I had with Johan that he
2 told me that legal advised him -- and that may have
3 been after the March meeting. I believe I raised a
4 question of where do we stand as employees here with
5 that individual still here, you know, where are we at?

6 I'm thinking in that phone conversation he told
7 me that he was advised to tell us that, you know,
8 we're not to go broadcasting it through the shop. I
9 don't remember the exact words, but that's what I took
10 it, that, you know, the situation -- you know, which
11 after I thought about it I guess there are different
12 things you can get into if you go doing that. So, I
13 don't know, that was the basis of that conversation
14 that I remember.

15 Q. And he was calling to see what was happening
16 with Valerie?

17 A. Yes. Yes.

18 Q. Did you tell him in that conversation that Val
19 had not told people at Joy the whole story?

20 A. I don't know if it was in that conversation.
21 If it was not, it was after she got out of the
22 hospital.

23 Q. At about that time period, did you tell Johan

CLL - September 14, 2006

No changes.

In re: WAKEFIELD VS. JOY MINING MACHINERY CO.


HAROLD WAKEFIELD

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
30th day of November, 2006.




NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires: _____

NO CORRECTIONS